

INFORMATION REPORT CD NO.

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Ethiopia/USSR

DATE DISTR 19 OCT 50

SUBJECT Russian Language School
in Addis Ababa

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1. The Russian language classes were reopened on 8 September 1950 at the Soviet Permanent Exhibit after having been closed on 15 August 1950.
2. The first classes were attended by fifteen Ethiopian students, all of whom are employed at the Permanent Exhibit as ushers. Ten of these were former students at the Tafari Makonnen Secondary School, where a revolt against school authority and defiance of the Government and Emperor occurred in July 1950. These ten students were among the ringleaders and were later expelled from the school on orders of the Emperor. Source states that all fifteen students have strong Soviet sympathies and he believes it possible that the Soviet Legation plans to use them as the nucleus or "hard core" of Communism among the Ethiopian people.
3. The language teacher is (Mrs.) Amassia Soukiasian, a former translator at the Soviet Legation. She is not known to have communist political sympathies, source asserts.
4. The original reason given by the Soviet Legation for closing the school was lack of students. The Legation now states that the school was closed to allow the teacher to have a vacation.

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